

Press release



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THOMSON

Marked progress in the third quarter

Orkla's pre-tax profit in the third quarter was 37 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of last year. The Branded Consumer Goods business achieved profit growth during the quarter, while the Chemicals business was affected by difficult market conditions. Positive cash flow and low interest rates contributed to lower financial expenses.

In the third quarter, Orkla's operating profit before goodwill amortisation was up 14 per cent compared with last year, amounting to NOK 1.2 billion. At the end of the first nine months, operating revenues totalled NOK 33.3 billion, NOK 1.3 billion higher than in the corresponding period of last year.

"Orkla's Branded Consumer Goods business has performed increasingly well throughout 2003. Profit growth continued for Orkla Foods and Orkla Brands, and Carlsberg Breweries also achieved good results in the third quarter. With respect to operational performance the quarter was an all time high," says Group President and CEO Finn Jebsen.

"Lower interest rates and strong financial markets also make a positive contribution. However, we anticipate a tougher competitive climate in future and our cost reduction and operational improvement programmes are therefore continuing in all business areas and in many countries," says Jebsen.

Orkla Beverages made the greatest progress in the third quarter, with especially positive profit growth in Turkey, Poland and Switzerland. In Russia, BBH reported an 11 per cent rise in volume for the quarter, but currency translation effects had a negative impact due to the decline in the value of the rouble against the euro.

Continued stock market growth led to a rise in the value of Orkla's investment portfolio. The return has been 14.1 per cent so far this year and at the end of the third quarter market value exceeded book value by more than NOK 1.4 billion.

BRANDED CONSUMER GOODS

• Orkla Foods' operating profit before goodwill amortisation was NOK 671 million for the first nine months, compared with NOK 591 million for the corresponding period of last year. Both Stabburet in Norway and Procordia Food in Sweden made good progress. The results for the other areas were also better than or on a par with the first nine months of last year. Orkla Foods is seeing the results of cost improvement programmes.

DD 11/21

- Orkla Beverages (40 per cent of Carlsberg Breweries)
 Orkla's share of Carlsberg Breweries generated operating profit before goodwill amortisation of NOK 1.1 billion, compared with NOK 1.2 billion last year. Carlsberg Breweries achieved volume growth in Southern Europe and Russia, and cost savings on several markets. At the end of the third quarter, operating revenues amounted to NOK 11.3 billion, compared with NOK 11.0 billion in the corresponding period of 2002.
- Orkla Brands reported operating profit before goodwill amortisation of NOK 667 million at the end of the third quarter. This is 18 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of last year. The most important contributions came from Biscuits and Confectionery. At the same time, revenues from Dietary Supplements increased on all the main markets.
- Orkla Media posted operating profit before goodwill amortisation of NOK 107 million for the first nine months, up from NOK 79 million last year. The newspaper businesses in Norway, Denmark and Poland achieved somewhat better results than in the corresponding period of last year. The magazine *Her og Nå* continued to grow. Orkla Media sold two newspaper businesses in Lower Silesia, Poland, in the third quarter.

CHEMICALS

Borregaard's operating profit for the first nine months totalled NOK 318 million, down from NOK 406 million. The lignin business achieved good, stable profit. The other business areas were affected by weak markets, which led to negative profit growth. Improvement programmes and strict cost controls helped to limit the effects of the downturn.

FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

After rising 16.5 per cent in the first six months of the year, the Oslo Stock Exchange Benchmark Index rose a further 6.3 per cent in the third quarter. The Index was thus 23.8 per cent higher than at the end of last year. In the same period, the return on Orkla's investment portfolio was 14.1 per cent.

Pre-tax profit for the Financial Investments division is NOK 944 million so far this year, compared with NOK 518 million in the corresponding period of last year. Realised losses amounted to NOK 30 million, compared with realised gains of NOK 153 million last year. Dividends received totalled NOK 377 million, compared with NOK 339 million last year. At the end of the third quarter, the market value of the portfolio was approximately NOK 12.8 billion.

FINANCIAL SITUATION

Free cash flow from operations in the third quarter amounted to NOK 1.7 billion, which is NOK 626 million better than in the third quarter of last year. Carlsberg Breweries reported particularly high cash flow, largely due to lower working capital and income from the sale of properties in the UK and Sweden.

The Industry division's expansion investments, which amounted to NOK 159 million, are mainly related to Carlsberg Breweries' operations. Acquired companies totalled NOK 107 million net. Divested companies, which amounted to NOK 123 million in the third quarter, are largely related to Orkla Media's sale of a real estate company in the Berlingske Group.

Net cash flow was NOK 824 million in the third quarter. Net interest-bearing liabilities were down NOK 1 billion.

GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

	1.130.9.			1.7	30.9.
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002
Operating revenues	33 254	31 996	42 979	11 765	10 545
Operating expenses	(28 660)	(27572)	(37.084)	(9 933)	(8 928)
Ordinary depreciation and write-downs	(1 763)	(1 658)	(2 232)	(606)	(546)
Operating profit before goodwill amortisation	2 831	2 766	3 663	1 226	1 071
Ordinary goodwill amortisation and write-downs	(398)	(365)	(499)	(135)	(121)
Other revenues and expenses 1)	(57)	(20)	(143)	(8)	12
Operating profit	2 376	2 381	3 021	1 083	962
Profit from associates	713	257	305	87	85
Dividends	384	353	369	1	33
Portfolio gains	(30)	153	(95)	72	(26)
Financial items, net	(655)	(862)	(1 193)	(177)	(275)
Profit before tax	2 788	2 282	2 407	1 066	779
Taxes	(753)	(616)	(630)	(288)	(210)
Profit after tax	2 035	1 666	1 777	778	569
Of this minority interests	129	159	166	58	65
Profit before tax, Industry division	1 844	1 764	2 067	971	769
Profit before tax, Financial Investments division	944	518	340	95	10
Earnings per share fully diluted (NOK)	9.2	7.2	7.7	3.5	2.4
Earnings per share fully diluted, adjusted (NOK) 2)	11.4	9.0	10.6	4.3	2.9

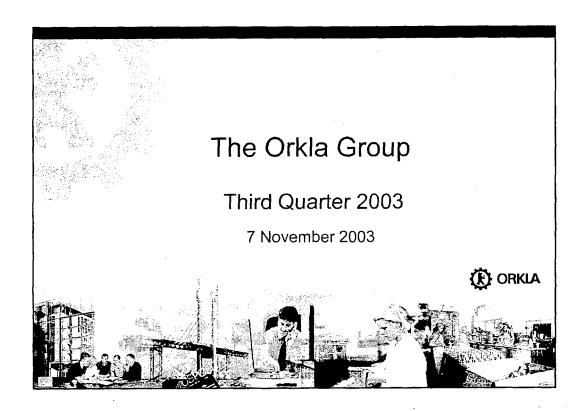
¹⁾ Other revenues and expenses totalled net NOK -57 million per third quarter 2003. This is primarily related to provision regarding improvements programmes in Orkla Foods.
2) Excluding goodwill amortisation and other revenues and expenses.

OPERATING REVENUES

OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE GOODWILL AMORTISATION

	1.1-	30.9.	[1.7	-30.9.	1.1	30.9.		1.7.	-30.9.
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002
Orkla Foods	8 534	8 021	11 062	2 973	2 692	671	591	902	286	239
Orkla Beverages	11 335	11 045	14 516	4 406	3 775	1 144	1 199	1 364	660	533
Orkla Brands	3 450	3 278	4 500	1 146	1 076	667	565	787	223	198
Orkla Media	5 388	5 291	7 079	1 799	1 671	107	79	148	33	32
Eliminations	(138)	(109)	(157)	(50)	(41)	0	0	0	0	0
Branded Consumer										
Goods	28 569	27 526	37 000	10 274	9 173	2 589	2 434	3 201	1 202	1 002
Chemicals	4 526	4 345	5 726	1 439	1 328	318	406	537	55	95
H.O./Unallocated/		!						l		
Eliminations	(70)	(53)	(58)	(22)	(22)	(84)	(88)	(116)	(32)	(30)
Industry division	33 025	31 818	42 668	11 691	10 479	2 823	2 752	3 622	1 225	1 067
Financial Investments										
division	229	178	311	74	66	8	14	41	1	4
Group	33 254	31 996	42 979	11 765	10 545	2 831	2 766	3 663	1 226	1 071

GROUP BALANCE SHEET			
Amounts in NOK million	30.9. 2003	30.9, 2002	31.12. 2002
Assets:			
Long-term assets	27 779	26 663	26 786
Portfolio investments etc.	11 477	12 064	11 998
Short-term assets	14 934	13 325	14 338
Total assets	54 190	52 052	53 122
Equity and Liabilities:	·		
Equity and minority interests	20 844	19 607	18 691
Interest-bearing liabilities	20 753	20 947	22 443
Interest-free liabilities and provisions	12 593	11 498	11 988
Total equity and liabilities	54 190	52 052	53 122
Equity to total assets (%):			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Book	38.5	37.7	35.2
Including unrealised gains before tax	40.0	37.8	35.4



Agenda

- Highlights third quarter 2003
- Key figures
- Operational development
- Q&A



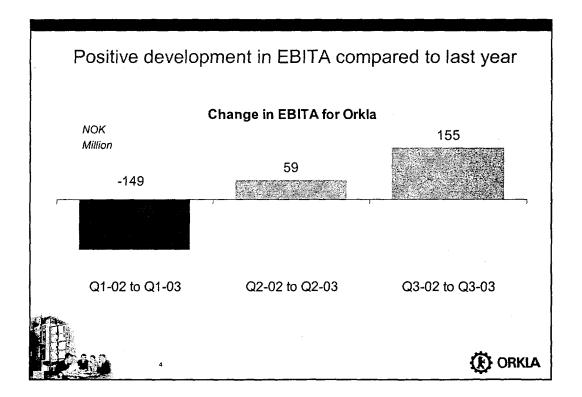


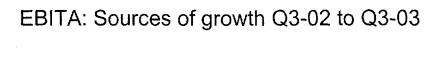
Highlights Q3-2003

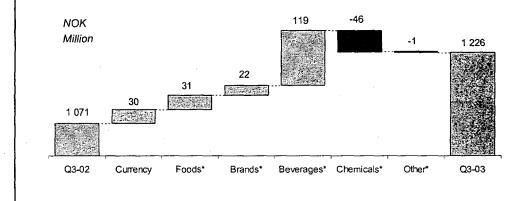
- Continued strong performance for the Orkla Group
- Good results from Branded Consumer Goods
 - EBITA + 20 %
- Disappointing quarter for Chemicals
- Reduced financial costs due to lower interest rate and lower debt
- Profit before tax +37 %













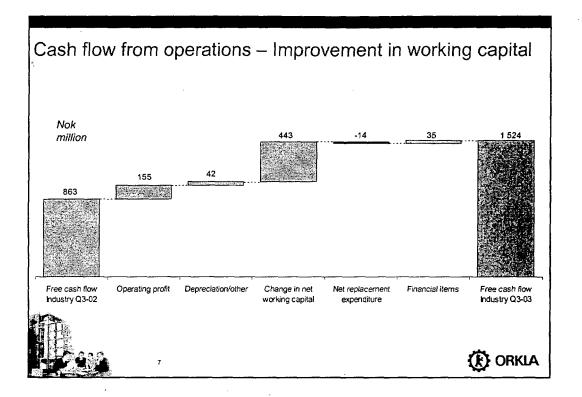
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Key figures Q3-2003

	1 Jul - :	30 Sep	Organic		
NOK million	2003	2002	Change	Change*	
Operating revenues	11 765	10 545	12 %	5 %	
EBITA**	1 226	1 071	14 %	14 %	
Goodwill amortisation	- 135	- 121			
Other revenues and expenses	- 8	12			
EBIT	1 083	962			
Associated companies	87	85			
Portfolio gains	72	- 26			
Dividends and net financial items	- 176	- 242			
Profit before tax	1 066	779	37 %		
Earnings per share (NOK)	3.5	2.4			
Free cash flow Industry	1 524	863			
*Adjusted for acquisitions and currency translation					
**Excl. other revenues and expenses					



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Balance sheet items

	30 Sep	31 Dec
_	2003	2002
Total assets	54 190	53 122
Equity to total assets ratio		
- Book	38.5 %	35.2 %
- Incl, unrealised capital gains before tax	40.0 %	35.4 %
Net interest-bearing liabilities	18 174	19 516
Net gearing	0.87	1.04
Average interest rate in period	4.7 %	5.4 %





Operational development per business unit





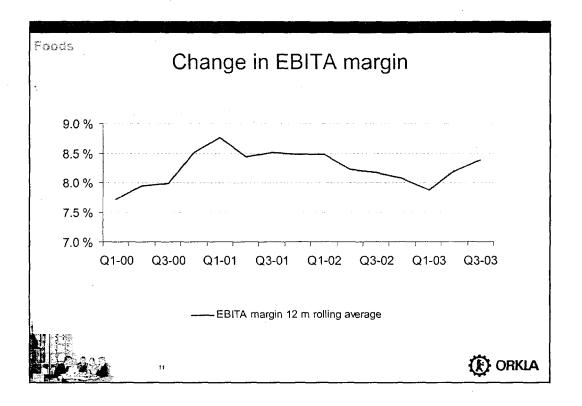
Foods – Continued margin growth due to cost improvements

	1 Jul -	30 Sep	Organic
in NOK million	2003	2002	Change*
Operating revenues	2 973	2 692	1 %
EBITA	286	239	12 %
EBITA margin	9.6 %	8.9 %	
*Adjusted for acquisitions and curre	ency translation		

- All operating units better than or on par with last year
 - Good progress in Sweden and Norway
- Cost reduction programmes on schedule (NOK 500 million by 2005)
 - Man-years down by approx 600 YTD
- Sales growth a challenge
 - Increased focus on innovations and brand building





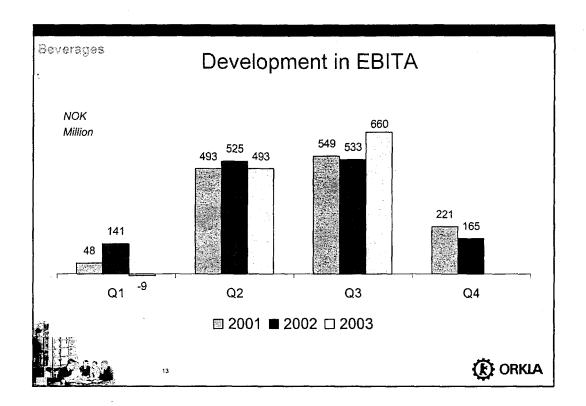


Beverages - Improved results

	1 Jul		
in NOK million	2003	2002	Change*
Operating revenues	4 406	3 775	12 %
EBITA	660	533	22 %
EBITA margin 'Adjusted for currency translation	15.0 %	14.1 %	

- * Still positive momentum at Beverages with good performance in third quarter
- Carlsberg brand growth reaches 7 % YTD
- Strong cash flow mainly due to reduced working capital
- Challenging price competition in all Nordic countries
 - Some pressure on market shares





Beverages

Good progress for improvement programmes

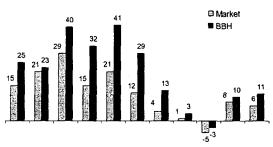
- Feldschlösschen improves performance due to positive contribution from efficiency programmes
- Satisfactory volume growth, cost control and product mix increase results in Turkey
- Strong growth at Carlsberg Okocim in Poland
- Closure of Bromma plant in Sweden under consideration



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Beverages

Russia: Market growth confirmed



Q1-01 Q2-01 Q3-01 Q4-01 Q1-02 Q2-02 Q3-02 Q4-02 Q1-03 Q2-03 Q3-03 Note: BBH domestic beer volume

Market shares in Russia		
	2003	2002
Brewery	9 mth	9 mth
ввн	33.3	32.4
Sun Interbrew	13.8	11.5
Krasny Vostok	7.4	7.0
Ochakova	7.2	8.2
Bravo (Heineken)	4.4	4.0
Efes	3.5	2.7
Stepan Razin	2.2	2.6

Others



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Beverages

CB - Expectations for 2003

- Operating profit (EBITA) to decrease by approx. 5 % in DKK
- Operating profit (EBITA) to increase by approx. 5 % in local currency
 To be about stable in NOK
- Carlsberg brand growth of 7 %
- * Reduction of capital employed by more than DKK 1 billion



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Brands - Solid performance

	1 Jul	Organic	
in NOK million	2003	2002	Change*
Operating revenues	1 146	1 076	3 %
EBITA	223	198	11 %
EBITA margin		18.4 %	
*Adjusted for acquisitions and curr	rency translation		

- Underlying top line growth of 3 % YTD

Top line growth due to innovations

 Continued contribution from efficiency programmes in Biscuits and Confectionery



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Media - Positive in Norway, still weak in Denmark

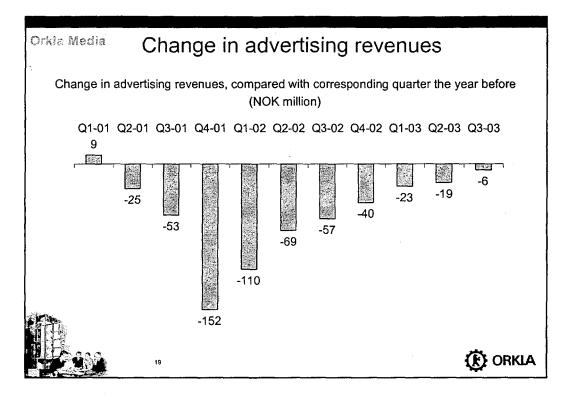
in NOK million	1 Jul - 2003	1 Jul - 30 Sep 2003 2002		
Operating revenues	1 799	1 671	0 %	
EBITA	33	32		
EBITA margin *Adjusted for acquisitions and curr	1.8 %	1.9 %		

- * Advertising markets still weak in Denmark and Poland
- Further restructuring and cost savings programmes for Berlingske and BT
 - Man-years down by another 4 % (cost NOK 53 million)
 - Total annual effect NOK 75 million in 2004
 - Since 2000; Man-years down by 21%, Fixed costs down by approx. 14 %
- Sale of newspapers in Silesia, Poland
 - Approx. 7 % of our Polish business weak market position
 - Sales price NOK 83 million, profit NOK 53 million 12 % p.a. ROI
 - Magazines continue to improve circulation and market share



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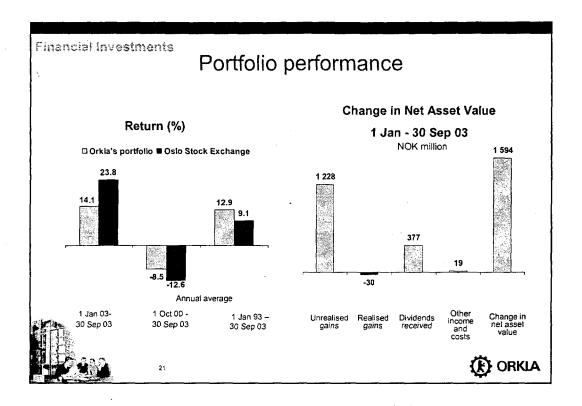


Chemicals - Challenging market conditions

	1 Jul -	30 Sep	Organic
in NOK million	2003	2002	Change*
Operating revenues	1 439	1 328	0 %
EBITA	55	95	-38 %
EBITA margin	3.8 %	7.2 %	
tAdjusted for equipitions and surror	an despolation		

- *Adjusted for acquisitions and currency translation
- Continued strong performance for Lignin operations
- Weak markets and results in other business areas
 - Lower volume for specialty cellulose, price decrease in Q3 for bulk grades
 - Capacity adjustments in fine chemicals
 - Lower crushing margin for soy beans
- Improvement programmes and strict cost control contribute positively
 - Man-years down by approx. 3% YTD





Financial Investments Portfolio key figures 30 Sep 03 31 Dec 02 Change 03 in NOK million Market value 12 768 12 060 708 1 594 10 240 Net asset value 11 834 190 1 228 Unrealised gains before tax 1 418 Share of portfolio invested 30 % +3 %-p outside Norway 33 % -1 %-p in listed companies 76 % 77 % (F) ORKLA 22

Financial Investments

Portfolio as of 30 September 2003

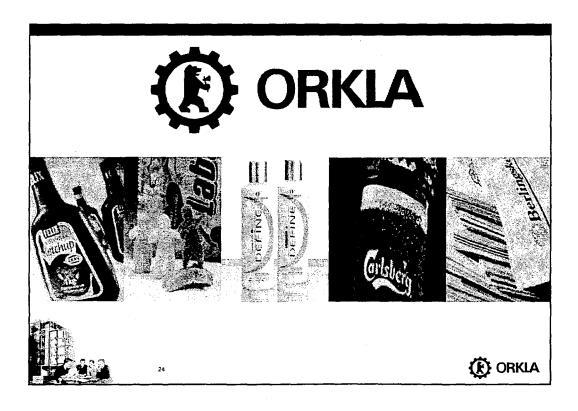
		Market value	Share of	Share of
Principal holdings	Industry	(NOK million)	portfolio (%)	equity (%)
Elkem	Metals	3 181	24.9	39.9
Storebrand	Insurance	943	7.4	9.9
Norway Seafoods Holding 1	Industrial	597	4.7	N/A
DnB Holding	Bank	545	4.3	2.1
Industri Kapital 2000 ²	Investment	479	3.8	3.6
Norsk Hydro	Energy and materials	425	3.3	0.4
Rieber & Søn	Food	383	3.0	9.9
Industri Kapital 97 2	Investment	343	2.7	8.0
Amersham plc	Pharmacy	326	2.6	8.0
Steen & Strøm	Real estate	313	2.5	11.3
Total principal holdings		7 535	59.0	
Market value of entire port	folio	12 768		



- 1) Not listed, bond
- 2) Not listed

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Enclosures





Cash Flow Statement - key figures

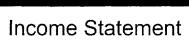
	1 Jan - 3	1 Jul - 30 Sep		
in NOK million	2003	2002	2003	2002
Industry division:				
Operating profit	2 367	2 367	1 081	958
Depreciation and write downs	2 211	2 026	737	663
Change in net working capital	-90	-102	302	-141
Net replacement expenditure	-1 178	-1 056	- 402	- 388
Financial items, net	-643	-774	-194	-229
Free cash flow Industry	2 667	2 461	1 524	863
Free cash flow Financial Investments	182	675	32	217
Taxes paid and miscellaneous	- 598	-1 056	- 153	- 186
Cash flow before capital transactions	2 251	2 080	1 403	894
Dividends paid and share buy-back	-1 071	-1 096	- 27	- 133
Cash flow before expansion	1 180	984	1 376	761
Net expansion	273	-1 356	- 143	- 238
Net purchases/sales portfolio investments	853	- 543	- 409	45
Net cash flow	2 306	- 915	824	568
Currency translation differences	- 964	992	203	155
Change in net interest-bearing liabilities	-1 342	- 77	-1 027	- 723
Net interest-bearing liabilities	18 174	19 055		

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Balance Sheet - some key figures

in NOK million	30 Sep 03	31 Dec 02
Long-term assets	27 779	26 786
Portfolio investments etc.	11 477	11 998
Short-term assets	14 934	14 338
Total assets	54 190	53 122
Equity to total assets ratio	i I	
- Book	38.5 %	35.2 %
- Incl. unrealised capital gains before tax	40.0 %	35.4 %
Net interest-bearing liabilities	18 174	19 516
Net gearing	0.87	1.04



	1 Jan - 3	30 Sep	1 Jul - 30 Sep		
NOK million	2003	2002	2003	2002	
Operating revenues	33 254	31 996	11 765	10 545	
EBITA	2 831	2 766	1 226	1 071	
Goodwill amortisation	- 398	- 365	- 135	- 121	
Other revenues and expenses	- 57	- 20	- 8	12	
Operating profit	2 376	2 381	1 083	962	
Associated companies	713	257	87	85	
Dividends received	384	353	1	33	
Portfolio gains	- 30	153	72	- 26	
Financial items, net	- 655	- 862	- 177	- 275	
Profit before tax	2 788	2 282	1 066	779	
Profit after tax	2 035	1 666	778	569	
- Minority interests	129	159	58	65	

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Currency translation effects in Q3-2003

NOK million	Revenues	EBITA
Foods	186	16
Beverages	174	8
Brands	29	3
Media	102	-3
Chemicals	26	6
Total	517	30



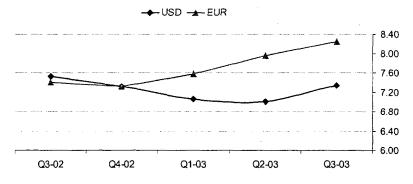
The above figures show translation effects only (Figures for Beverages include RUR depreciation v. DKK)



Currency translation effects

 Impact on revenues in Q3 is NOK 517 million, impact on EBITA is NOK 30 million

Performance of NOK versus USD and EUR







Goodwill amortisation in Q3-03

	Goodwill				
in NOK million	EBITA amo	EBIT*			
Foods	286	-46	240		
Beverages	660	-37	623		
Brands	223	-10	213		
Media	33	-41	-8		
Chemicals	55	0	55		



* Before other revenues and expenses



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Baltic Beverages Holding (50 %)

to DIAL college	1 Jul - 30 Sep	Change	1 Jan - 30 Sep	Change
in DKK million	2003 2002	Acc. FX transl.	2003 2002	Acc FX transl.
Operating revenues	1 351 1 354	0% 9%	3 402 3 737	-9% 6%
EBITA	400 401	0% 9%	853 1036	-18 % - 5 %
EBITA margin	29.6 % 29.6 %	0.0 p.	25.1 % 27.7 %	-2.6 p.





Carlsberg Asia

in DKK million	1 Jul - 3 2003	0 Sep 2002 C	hange	1 Jan - 30 2003		hange
Operating revenues	445	241	n.m	917	797	n.m
EBITA EBITA margin*	167 22.3 %	156 n.m	7 % n.m	375 n.m	397 n.m	-6 % n.m

Note: First half of 2003 is reported according to old structure (50/50 JV), And Q3 is reported according to new 100 % Asia structure

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Financial items



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Financial items, Orkla Group

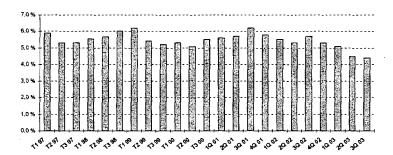
	1 Jan - 3	Year	
In NOK million	2003	2002	2002
Net interest expenses	-599	-776	-997
Currency gain/loss	13	-37	-85
Other financial items, net		-49	-111
Net financial items	-655	-862	-1 193
Avg. net interest-bearing liabilities	19 261	19 576	19 455
Average interest rate	4.7 %	5.5 %	5.4 %



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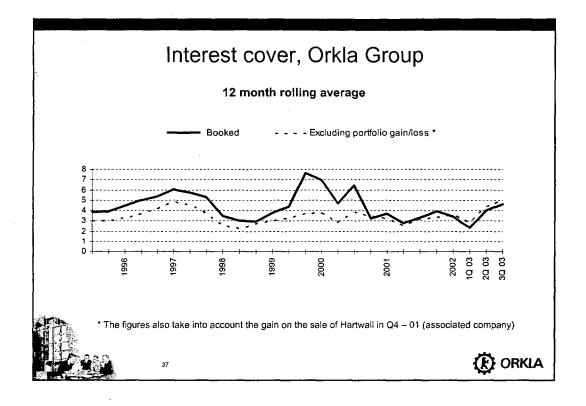


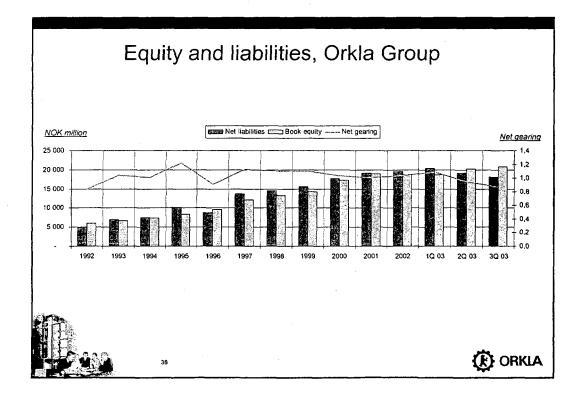
Average interest rate, Orkla Group

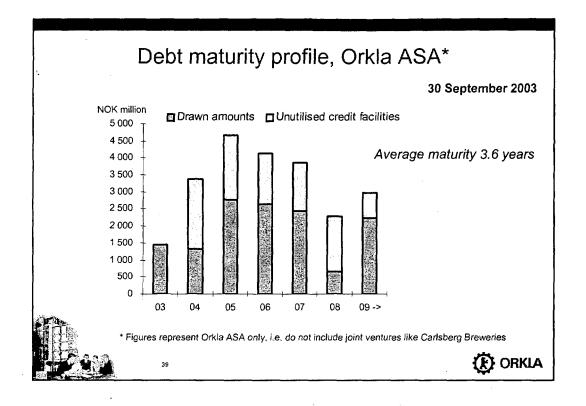


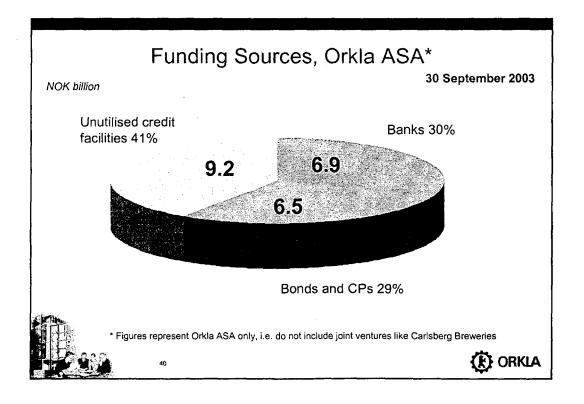


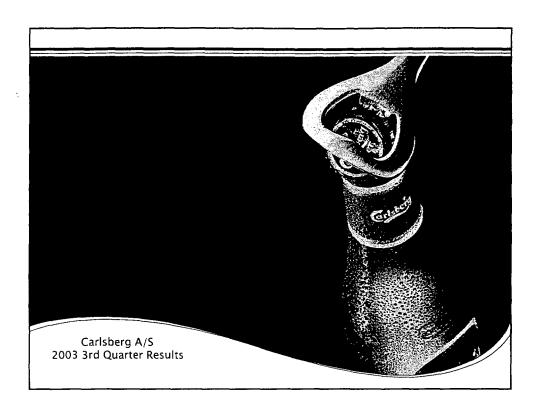
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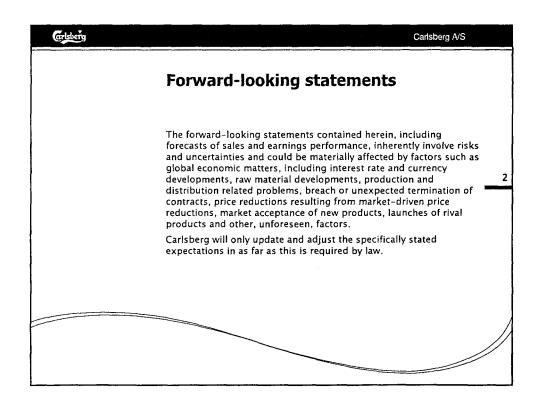


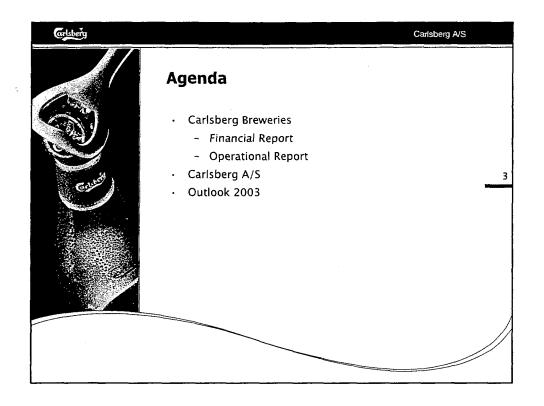


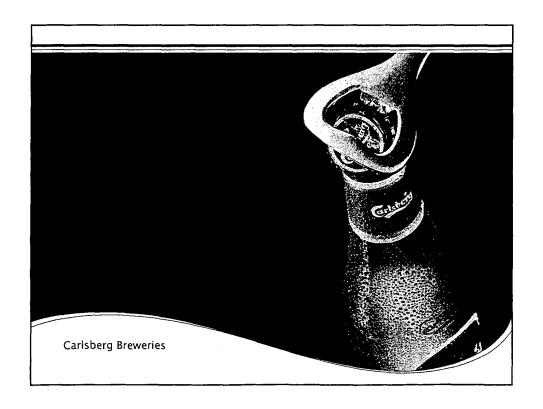


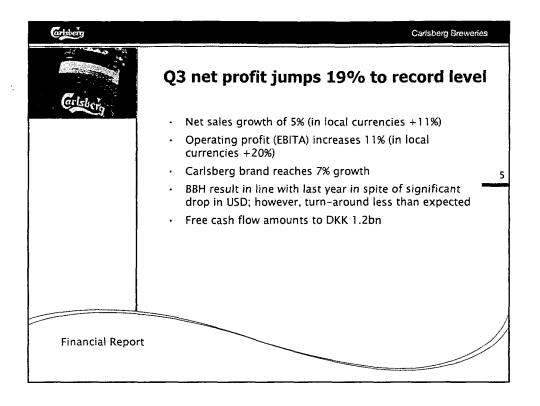


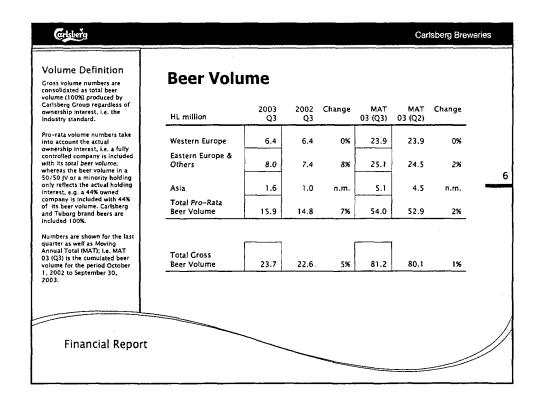


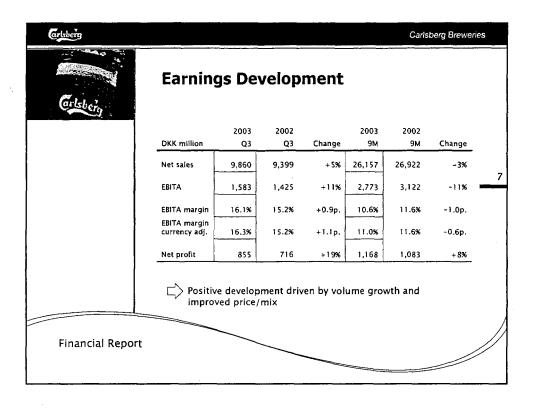


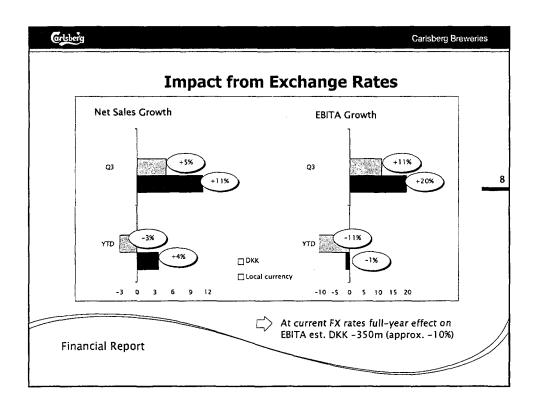


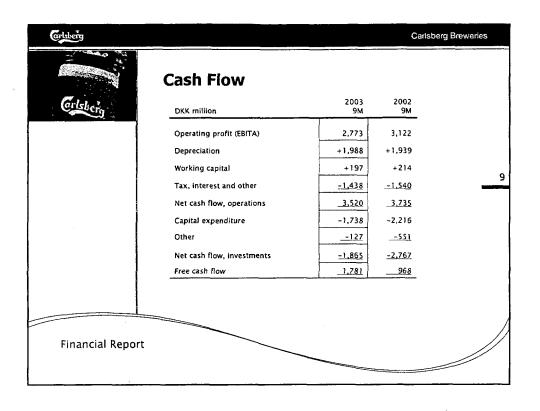


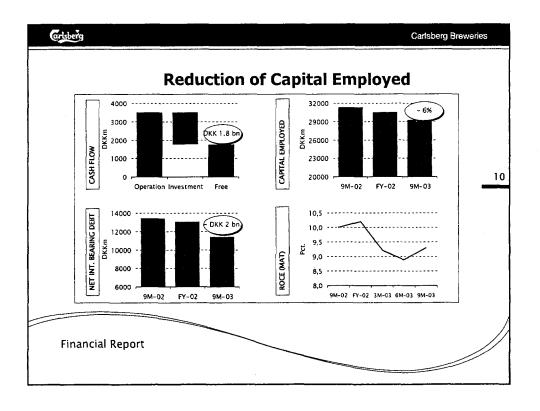


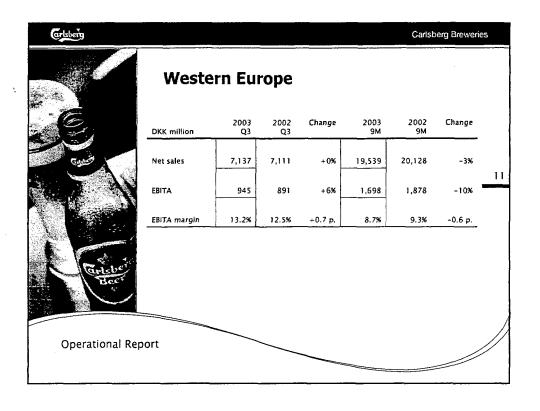


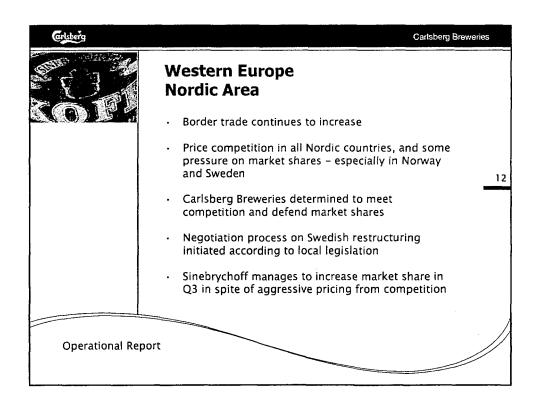


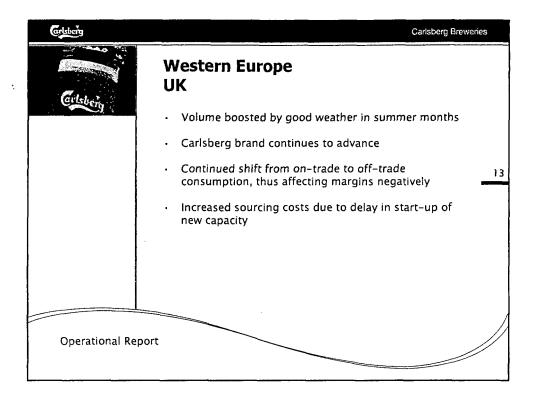


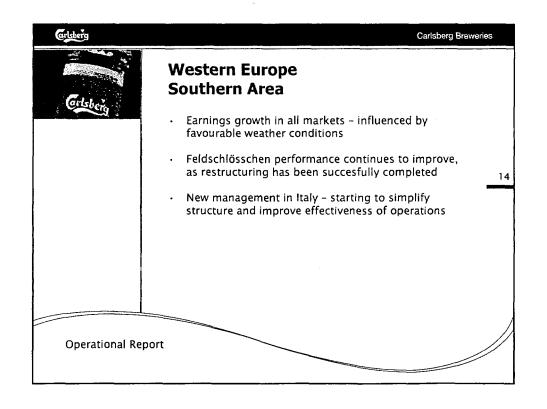


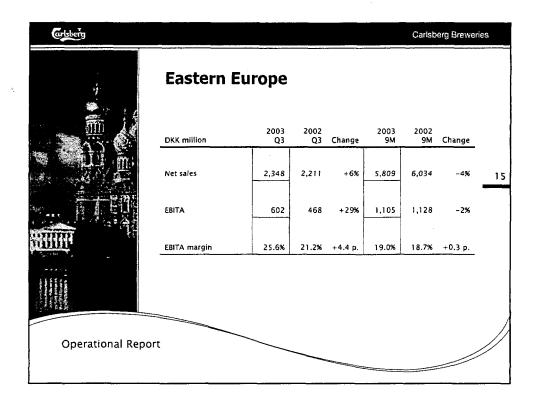


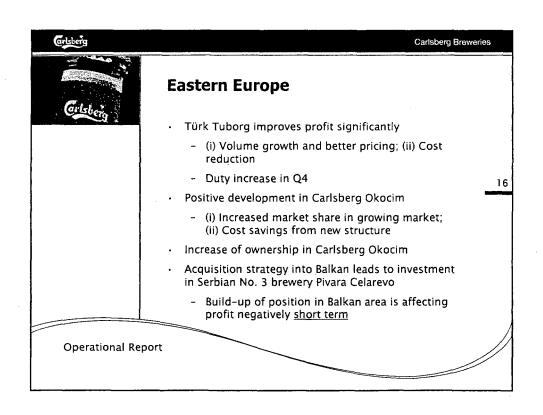


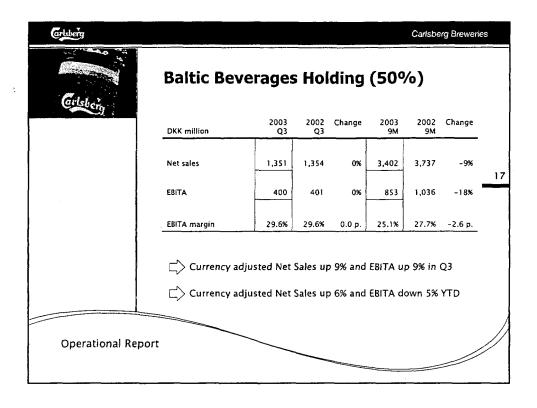


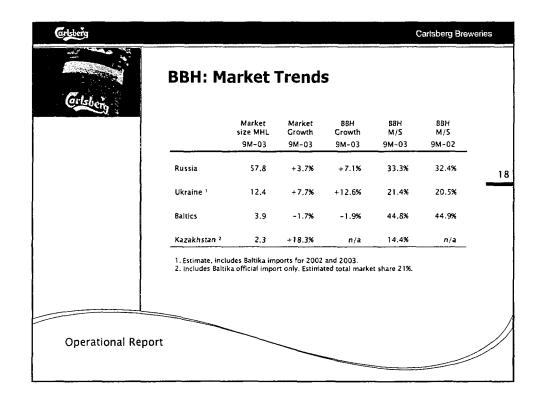


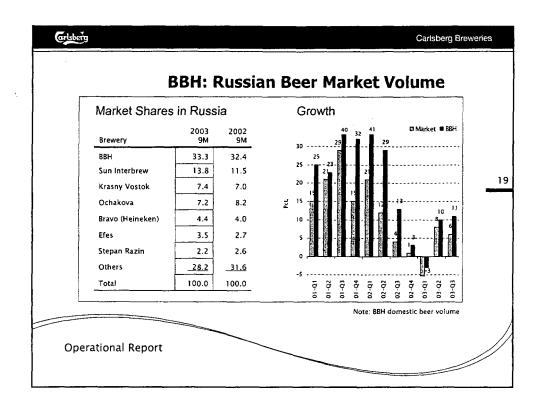


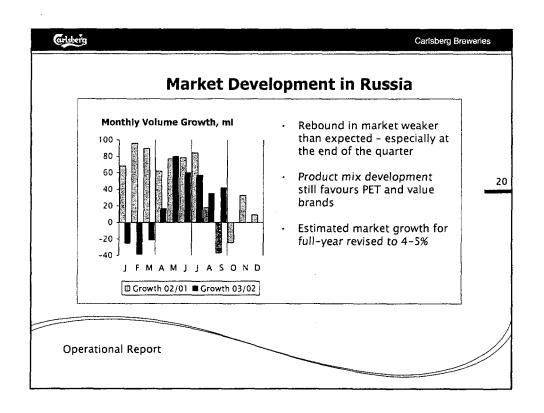


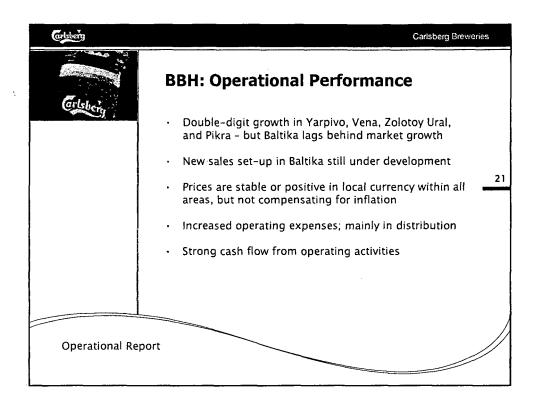


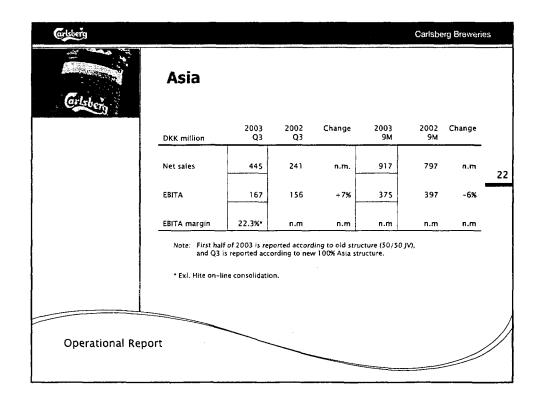


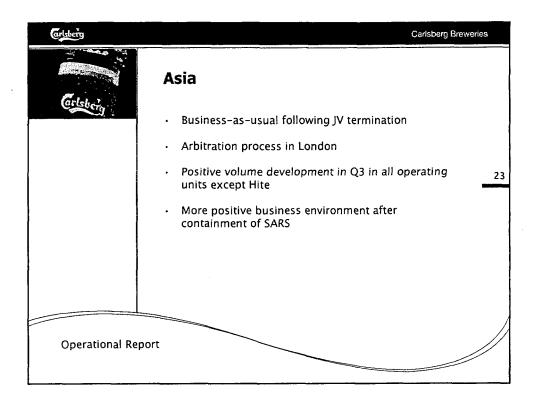


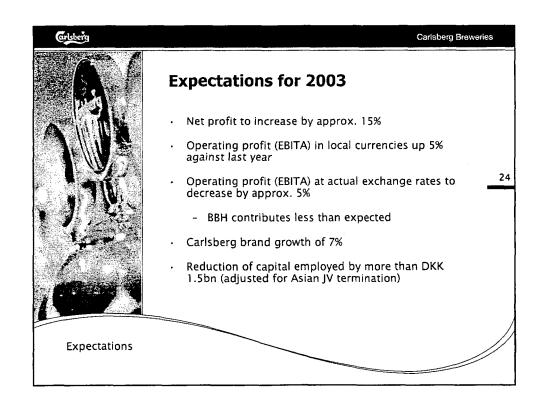


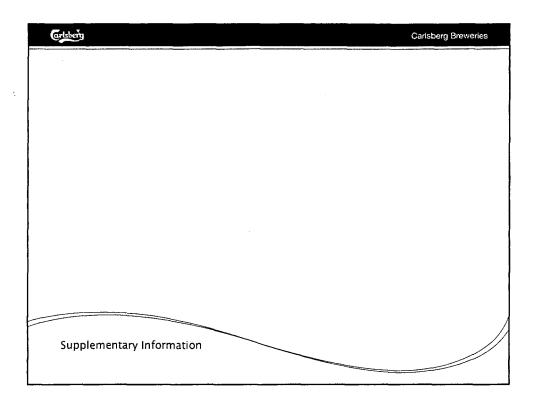


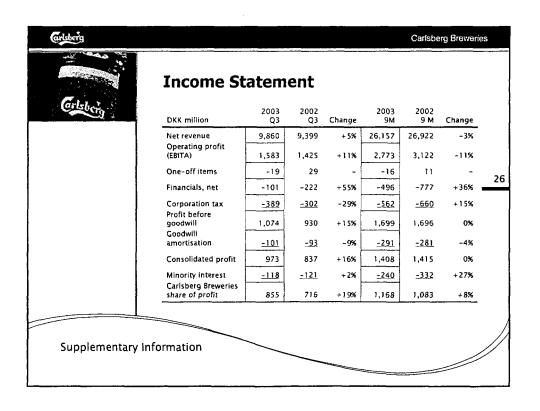




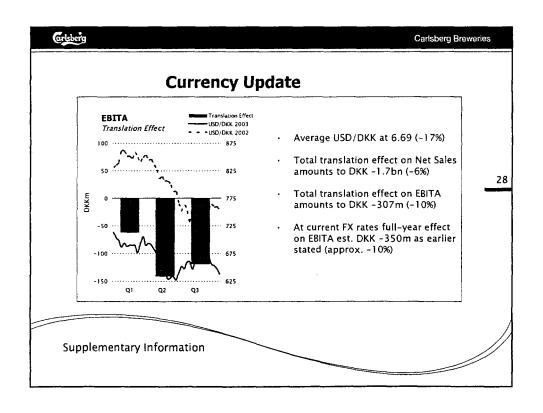








(G) Streets	- State of the sta			Carlsberg Bre	weries
	Balance Sheet				
Celsbein	DKK million	2003 30 Sep	2002 31 Dec	2002 30 Sep	
	Non current assets	28,222	29,058	29,484	
	Current assets	14,339	13,431	13,628	
	Capital and reserves	14,362	13,577	14,181	
	Provisions	3,213	3,337	3,481	
	Non-current liabilities	10,544	10,724	10,870	-
	Current liabilities	14,442	14,850	14,580	
	Balance sheet total	42,561	42,489	43,112	
}	Net interest bearing debt	11,446	13,070	13,458	
}	Capital employed	29,235	30,517	31,058	
	ROCE (MAT)	9.3%	10.2%	9.0%	
Supplementary	Information				//



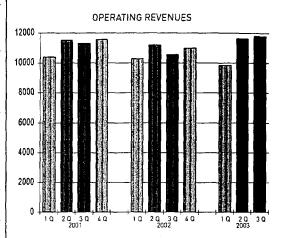
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GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

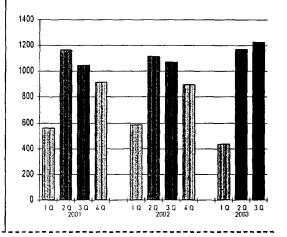
	1.130.9.			1.730.9.		
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002	
Operating revenues	33 254	31 996	42 979	11 765	10 545	
Operating expenses	(28 660)	(27 572)	(37 084)	(9 933)	(8 928)	
Ordinary depreciation and write-downs	(1 763)	(1 658)	(2 232)	(606)	(546)	
Operating profit before goodwill amortisation	2 831	2 766	3 663	1 226	1 071	
Ordinary goodwill amortisation and						
write-downs	(398)	(365)	[499]	(135)	(121)	
Other revenues and expenses	(57)	(20)	(143)	(8)	12	
Operating profit	2 376	2 381	3 021	1 083	962	
Profit from associates	713	257	305	87	85	
Dividends	384	353	369	1	33	
Portfolio gains	(30)	153	(95)	72	(26)	
Financial items, net	(655)	[862]	(1 193)	(177)	(275)	
Profit before tax	2 788	2 282	2 407	1 066	779	
Taxes	(753)	(616)	(630)	(288)	(210)	
Profit after tax	2 035	1 666	1 777	778	569	
Of this minority interests	129	159	166	58	65	
Profit before tax, Industry division	1 844	1 764	2 067	971	769	
Profit before tax, Financial Investments divisio	n 944	518	340	95	10	
Earnings per share fully diluted (NOK)	9.2	7.2	7.7	3.5	2,4	
Earnings per share fully diluted,						
adjusted (NOK)"	11.4	9.0	10.6	4.3	2.9	

This quarterly report has been prepared in accordance with the same accounting principles as the annual accounts and in accordance with Norwegian Accounting Standard No. 11.

OPERATING REVENUES AND OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE GOODWILL AMORTISATION IN NOK MILLION QUARTERLY



OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE GOODWILL AMORTISATION



MAIN TRENDS IN THE THIRD QUARTER

- Orkla's pre-tax profit was 37 % higher than in the third quarter of 2002 and totalled NOK 1,066 million.
- The Branded Consumer Goods business achieved profit growth in the third quarter, while the Chemicals business was affected by a weaker market situation. In total, Group operating profit before goodwill amortisation was 14 % higher than in the corresponding period of last year.
- Financial expenses were lower due to positive cash flow and low international interest rates.
- The continued rise on the stock markets led to an increase in the value of Orkla's investment portfolio. The return has been 14.1 % so far this year and at the end of the third quarter market value was just over NOK 1.4 billion higher than book value.

Other revenues and expenses totalled net NOK -57 million per third quarter 2003. This is primarily related to provision regarding improvement programmes in Orkla Foods.

[&]quot;Excluding goodwill amortisation and other revenues and expenses.

Group operating revenues in the third quarter totalled NOK 11,765 million (NOK 10,545 million)¹. This represents underlying² growth of approximately 5 %, which is slightly higher than in the first six months. The Beverages business in particular achieved positive sales growth.

Operating profit before goodwill amortisation amounted to NOK 1,226 million in the third quarter, up 14 % from the corresponding period of 2002. Currency translation effects contributed about NOK 30 million to profit, but this was offset by a loss of profit from divested businesses.

Orkla Beverages achieved the strongest growth in the third quarter, with Turkey, Poland and Switzerland posting particularly strong profit growth compared with the third quarter of last year. In Russia, Baltic Beverages Holding (BBH) reported volume growth of approximately 11 %, but the decline in the value of the Russian rouble against the euro had a negative currency translation effect on operating profit.

For Orkla Foods and Orkla Brands, the profit growth reported in the second quarter continued, while profit for Orkla Media remained unchanged. The Chemicals business was affected by a decline in prices and lower demand for specialty cellulose. However, profit growth for the lignin business was still satisfactory.

Other revenues and expenses amounted to NOK -8 million net in the third quarter. Orkla Media sold newspaper businesses in Lower Silesia, Poland, at a gain of approximately NOK 50 million, but this was offset by provisions for workforce reductions in Denmark. Carlsberg Breweries also made provisions for restructuring in Sweden and Switzerland.

The contribution to profit from associated companies amounted to NOK 87 million in the third quarter, on a par with the corresponding period of last year.

Group cash flow was positive in the third quarter, amounting to NOK 824 million. Net financial expenses were down due to lower interest rates and debt levels.

The return on Orkla's investment portfolio was 14.1 % at the end of the third quarter, compared with 23.8 % for the Oslo Stock Exchange Benchmark Index and 13.3 % for the FT World Index.

As of 30 September 2003, earnings per share amounted to NOK 9.2 (NOK 7.2)¹. Before goodwill amortisation and other revenues and expenses, earnings per share were NOK 11.4 (NOK 9.0)¹. The increase was due to the sale of Orkla's stake in Enskilda Securities in the first quarter, profit growth for the Branded Consumer Goods business and lower financial expenses. Calculations are based on a tax charge of 27 %, which is on a par with 2002.

ORKLA FOODS

- Satisfactory growth for Stabburet in Norway and Procordia Food in Sweden
- Profit for other areas better than or on a par with the third quarter of last year
- Stronger focus on and positive results from cost improvement programmes.

Orkla Foods' operating revenues amounted to NOK 2,973 million in the third quarter, equivalent to underlying² growth of 1 % compared with the third quarter of last year. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation was NOK 286 million in the third quarter, up 20 %. The rise in profit was largely due to systematic efforts to improve competitiveness, which include stronger focus on costs. So far this year, underlying² operating revenues are on a par with the corresponding period of last year, but operating profit before goodwill amortisation amounted to NOK 671 million, which is 14 % higher than in the first nine months of last year.

Orkla Foods largely maintained or strengthened its market shares. The sales growth achieved by FUN Light (sugar-free cordial) was especially encouraging. In the third quarter, sales of FUN Light in Norway, Sweden and Finland grew 39 %, 28 % and 11 % respectively compared with the corresponding period of last year, largely due to innovation, advertising and improved product design.

Orkla Foods aims to implement improvement programmes that will reduce costs by NOK 500 million by the end of 2004 compared with the 2002 level. There are plans to reduce the workforce by approximately 1,000 man-years in the same period, equivalent to around 15 %. Roughly half of these reductions will take place outside the Nordic region. At the end of the third quarter, the workforce had been reduced by about 600 man-years. Further manpower reductions will largely take place through natural wastage and an almost total freeze on new appointments, but some staff will have to be laid off. All in all, the improvement programmes are proceeding according to plan.

Orkla Foods Nordic continued to do well in the third quarter. The strongest growth was achieved by the two largest divisions, Stabburet in Norway and Procordia Food in Sweden. Stabburet has succeeded in reorienting sales towards more profitable products and cost trends were good. The "Lyftet" programme, which aims to improve competitiveness, contributed to continued growth for Procordia Food. The improvement programme at Abba Seafood in Sweden is proceeding as planned.

On the whole, the companies in Orkla Foods International improved their performance during the quarter, although operating profit before goodwill amortisation remained negative. The turnaround operation at Superfish (Poland) is proceeding as anticipated. Pizza production in Budapest was wound up in the third quarter and moved to the Czech Republic.

Orkla Food Ingredients reported underlying profit growth on a par with last year. The companies in Norway and Sweden achieved positive growth.

Bakers' new production plant for bakery products in Oslo started operations in the second quarter and is functioning as anticipated. The plant will lead to more rational operations and increased production capacity, not least in the growing market for long-life bakery products.

¹ Figures in brackets are for equivalent period last year.

² Excluding acquisitions and divestments are currency translation effects.

OPERATING REVENUES

OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE GOODWILL AMORTISATION

	1.1.	-30.9 .	1.131.12.	1.7.	-30.9.	1.1	-30.9.	1.131.12.	1.7	-30.9.
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002
Orkla Foods	8 534	8 021	11 062	2 973	2 692	671	591	902	286	239
Orkla Beverages	11 335	11 045	14 516	4 406	3 775	1 144	1 199	1 364	660	533
Orkla Brands	3 450	3 278	4 500	1 146	1 076	667	565	787	223	198
Orkla Media	5 388	5 291	7 079	1 799	1 671	107	79	148	33	32
Eliminations	(138)	(109)	[157]	(50)	(41)	0	0	0	0	0
Branded Consumer Goods	28 569	27 526	37 000	10 274	9 173	2 589	2 434	3 201	1 202	1 002
Chemicals	4 526	4 345	5 726	1 439	1 328	318	406	537	55	95
H.O./Unallocated/Eliminations	(70)	(53)	(58)	(22)	(22)	(84)	(88)	(116)	(32)	(30)
Industry division	33 025	31 818	42 668	11 691	10 479	2 823	2 752	3 622	1 225	1 067
Financial Investments division	229	178	311	74	66	8	14	41	1	4
Group	33 254	31 996	42 979	11 765	10 545	2 831	2 766	3 663	1 226	1 071

ORKLA BEVERAGES

- Continued market growth in Southern Europe, weaker in the Nordic region
- Progress for companies in Central Europe
- 7 % volume growth for the Carlsberg brand so far this year

Orkla's 40 % stake in Carlsberg Breweries represented operating revenues of NOK 4,406 million in the third quarter. Adjusted for currency translation effects, operating revenues were up 12 % compared with the corresponding period of last year. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation amounted to NOK 660 million (NOK 533 million)¹ in the third quarter The rise in profit was largely ascribable to volume growth in Southern Europe and cost savings in several markets. The Polish and Turkish businesses also performed well. At the end of the first nine months, operating profit before goodwill amortisation was NOK 1,144 million. Adjusted for currency translation effects, this is 2 % lower than in the corresponding period of last year.

Operating revenues for the Northern and Western Europe³ market region totalled DKK 7,137 million in the third quarter. Adjusted for currency translation effects, this was 4 % higher than in the corresponding period of 2002. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation was DKK 945 million (DKK 891 million)¹.

The companies in Southern Europe reported profit growth in the third quarter. Favourable weather conditions more than compensated for the generally weak economic situation in the region. The Swiss business continued to achieve profit growth as a result of improvement projects. Profit in the Nordic region was affected by weak volume growth due to a general market decline, stronger competition and pressure on prices. Profit was particularly weak in Sweden, where the Group is considering closing down one of its two production plants. In the UK, volume increased in the third quarter but underlying growth continued to be affected by pressure on prices and higher distribution costs. Market positions were somewhat weaker in certain parts of the Nordic region but were otherwise more or less maintained.

Operating revenues in the Central and Eastern Europe³ market region totalled DKK 2,348 million in the third quarter. Adjusted for currency translation effects, this was 17 % higher than in the corresponding period of 2002. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation totalled DKK

602 million (DKK 468 million)¹. Adjusted for currency translation effects, profit in this market region was DKK 194 million higher than in the third quarter of 2002.

For the Turkish business, the volume growth that began in the second quarter continued. Quarterly profit was up as a result of this in conjunction with an improved product mix, price increases and cost control. Profit also improved in Poland due to volume growth and cost savings. The Croatian business reported good volume and profit growth in the third quarter. Carlsberg Breweries has strengthened its position in the Balkans by acquiring the Serbian Pivara Celarevo brewery.

For BBH, operating profit before goodwill amortisation in the third quarter was on a par with the third quarter of last year measured in euro, despite negative currency translation effects due to the decline in the value of the rouble against European currencies.

In the third quarter of 2003, BBH's total beer sales volume was 9.3 million hectolitres, equivalent to volume growth of 9 % compared with the corresponding period of last year. Market growth for beer in Russia was 6 % in the third quarter. At the end of the first nine months, market growth in Russia was 4 % while BBH had achieved volume growth of 7 % and strengthened its market share. In Ukraine, market growth for beer at the end of September was 8 % while BBH's volume growth was 13 %. In the Baltic States, BBH's volumes were on a par with the overall market, where the volume of beer sales dropped 2 %.

The joint venture agreement with Chang Beverages in Asia was terminated with accounting effect from 1 July 2003. Carlsberg Breweries continued its operations in the Asian region through Carlsberg Asia as a wholly-owned subsidiary. The focus is still on growth, partly organic and partly through acquisitions. In a press release, Chang Beverages has announced that it will fight the decision to terminate the joint venture agreement and demand that it be continued. Carlsberg Breweries has rejected this claim and it is likely that the dispute will have to be settled by arbitration in London.

Operating revenues for Carlsberg Asia³ amounted to DKK 445 million in the third quarter and operating profit before goodwill amortisation totalled DKK 167 million. Total beer volume for Carlsberg Asia was 3 % higher than in the third quarter of last year due to new business. Most companies

³ Figures for the market regions are given on a 100 % basis in DKK.

reported underlying volume and profit growth with the exception of Hite, which was negatively affected by a decline on the market. The positive impact on profit of full consolidation in the third quarter was neutralised by negative currency translation effects.

ORKLA BRANDS

- Profit up 13 % in the third quarter
- Broad-based profit growth. The main contributors were Biscuits and Confectionery
- Aggressive price competition for Home and Personal Care in Norway

Orkla Brands' operating revenues amounted to NOK 1,146 million in the third quarter, equivalent to underlying² growth of 3 % compared with the corresponding period of last year. Growth was on a par with the first two quarters of this year. The strongest growth was achieved by the Biscuits business in Norway and Sweden, driven by new launches. At the same time, operating revenues from Dietary Supplements continued to rise on all the main markets. Lilleborg Home and Personal Care posted marginally lower operating revenues than in the third quarter of last year, mainly due to tougher competition from private labels. At the end of the first nine months, operating revenues amounted to NOK 3,450 million and underlying² growth was 3 % higher than last year.

Operating profit before goodwill amortisation was NOK 223 million in the third quarter, up 13 % compared with the third quarter of last year. All businesses reported profit growth except Lilleborg Home and Personal Care. As in the previous quarter, the Biscuits and Confectionery businesses were the main contributors to profit growth, which was driven by good sales of newly launched products. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation amounted to NOK 667 million at the end of the first nine months, which is 18 % higher than in the corresponding period of last year.

On the whole, the products launched this year are performing well. The most important launches in the third quarter were in Biscuits (Gjende with Caramel, Brago Kola) and Dietary Supplements (Møllers cod liver oil for children).

Market shares for Orkla Brands remained relatively unchanged from the previous quarter, but Lilleborg Home and Personal Care experienced a certain decline. The Household Textiles business has signed a distribution agreement with ICA Norway, which will enter into force on 1 January 2004 and also entails taking over their own brand La Comfort.

ORKLA MEDIA

- Somewhat improved results for newspapers in Norway, Denmark and Poland
- · Sale of newspaper businesses in Lower Silesia, Poland
- Significant restructuring at Berlingske Tidende and BT

Orkla Media's operating revenues amounted to NOK 1,799 million in the third quarter, equivalent to underlying² growth on a par with the third quarter of last year. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation was NOK 33 million in the third quarter, also on a par with the corresponding period of last year. So far this year, operating revenues amount to NOK 5,388 million, an underlying² decline of 1 %. Operating profit before

goodwill amortisation was NOK 107 million (NOK 79 million)¹ at the end of the first nine months.

Berlingske reported higher profit in the third quarter than in the corresponding period of last year, but operating profit before goodwill amortisation remained negative. The decline in advertising revenues continued, although less strongly than before, while lower paper prices and cost cutting measures contributed to the improvement. Aggressive competition in the housing advertisement market has resulted in strong pressure on prices. The free newspaper Urban continued to perform well. Advertising revenues for the Berlingske Group as a whole were somewhat weaker than for the total market and circulation was lower than last year. A decision has been made to restructure Berlingske Tidende's newspaper product and substantially restructure BT, which will lead to significant cost reductions. There is still uncertainty about market and profit growth in Denmark, and unless there is underlying improvement in the fourth quarter it may be necessary to adjust the profit forecast for the Danish business.

Profit from Newspapers Norway in the third quarter was somewhat higher than in the corresponding period of last year, largely due to positive revenue growth and lower paper prices. Advertising volume growth (at the end of August) was better than the overall market trend, while circulation figures at the end of the first nine months were somewhat lower than last year.

Newspapers Eastern Europe reported profit growth in the third quarter as a result of cost cutting measures and lower paper prices. Advertising revenues were weaker than in the corresponding period of last year but better than the overall market. Circulation figures continued to decline, but were better than the overall market.

Orkla Press's newspaper businesses in Lower Silesia, Poland, were sold for NOK 83 million. Although they represented 7 % of sales for the Polish business, their circulation and financial growth were less strong than for the company's other Polish newspapers due to their weaker market position. Despite this fact, the sale resulted in a good gain and a satisfactory return on invested capital (12 % p.a.).

Magazines Norway reported a decline in profit compared with the corresponding period of last year. Adjusted for a different publication frequency, however, profit was higher. The magazine Her og Nå continued to make progress.

Direct Marketing posted somewhat lower operating profit than in the corresponding period of last year.

CHEMICALS

- . Good, stable results for the lignin business
- Other business areas affected by weak markets, which resulted in negative profit growth
- Improvement programmes and strict cost controls made a positive contribution

Borregaard's operating revenues totalled NOK 1,439 million in the third quarter of 2003 and the underlying² figure was on a par with the third quarter of last year.

GROUP BALANCE SHEET

CASH FLOW

	30.9.	30.9.	31.12.
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002
Assets:			
Long-term assets	27 779	26 663	26 786
Portfolio investments etc.	11 477	12 064	11 998
Short-term assets	14 934	13 325	14 338
Total assets	54 190	52 052	53 122
Equity and liabilities:			
Equity and minority interests	20 844	19 607	18 691
Interest-bearing liabilities	20 753	20 947	22 443
Interest-free liabilities and			
provisions	12 593	11 498	11 988
Total equity and liabilities	54 190	52 052	53 122
Equity to total assets (%):			
Book	38.5	37.7	35.2
Including unrealised gains			
before tax	40.0	37.8	35.4

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Total	19 834	18 660	17 800
Translation difference etc.	378	(501)	(721)
Repurchase of own shares	(250)	(315)	(351)
Dividend	0	0	[708]
Profit for the year after minority	1 906	1 507	1 611
Equity 1 January	17 800	17 969	17 969
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002
	1.1.	31.12.	

	1.1.	-30.9.		1.730.9.	
Amounts in NOK million	2003	2002	2002	2003	2002
Industry division:					
Operating profit	2 367	2 367	2 981	1 081	958
Depreciation and write-downs	2 211	2 026	2 895	737	663
Change in net working capital	(90)	(102)	195	302	[141]
Cash flow from operating activities	4 488	4 291	6 071	2 120	1 480
Net replacement expenditure	(1 178)	(1 056)	[1 843]	(402)	(388)
Free cash flow operating activities	3 310	3 235	4 228	1 718	1 092
Financial items, net	[643]	(774)	(1 143)	(194)	(229)
Free cash flow from Industry division	2 667	2 461	3 085	1 524	863
Free cash flow from					
Financial Investments division	182	675	715	32	217
Taxes paid	(625)	(871)	(973)	(186)	(87)
Miscellaneous	27	(185)	(207)	33	(99)
Cash flow before capital transactions	2 251	2 080	2 620	1 403	894
Dividends paid	(821)	(781)	(781)	(25)	[4]
Share buy back	(250)	[315]	(351)	(2)	[129]
Cash flow before expansion	1 180	984	1 488	1 376	761
Expansion investments, Industry division	(436)	(493)	(740)	(159)	[129]
Sold companies	1 006	74	210	123	0
Acquired companies	[297]	(937)	(1 920)	[107]	(109)
Net purchases/sales portfolio investments	853	(543)	(920)	(409)	45
Net cash flow	2 306	(915)	(1 882)	824	568
Currency translations net interest-bearing de	ebt (964)	992	1 498	203	155
Change in net interest-bearing debt	[1 342]	(77)	384	(1 027)	[723]
Net interest-bearing debt	18 174	19 055	19 516		

Operating profit before goodwill amortisation amounted to NOK 55 million (NOK 95 million)¹ in the third quarter. Only Borregaard LignoTech posted profit on a par with the third quarter of last year. The results for the other business areas were still affected by the weak market situation.

So far this year, operating revenues amount to NOK 4,526 million, an underlying² decline of 4 % compared with the first nine months of last year. Operating profit before goodwill amortisation amounts to NOK 318 million so far this year, NOK 88 million less than in the corresponding period of last year.

Borregaard LignoTech achieved good results in the field of concrete additives while the results for the specialty segments varied somewhat. On the whole, third quarter profit was on a par with the third quarter of last year. The first quarter of full operations at the new plant in South Africa has proceeded as anticipated, but the stronger South African Rand against the US dollar had a negative impact on profit.

Borregaard ChemCell reported lower profit than in the third quarter of last year. Prices for specialty cellulose remained stable, but sales volumes for these qualities were somewhat lower. A clearly weaker cellulose market and lower prices for standard paper cellulose and low sales of the new yeast extracts, resulted in negative quarterly profit for the Swiss business.

Borregaard Synthesis reported good sales growth compared with the third quarter of last year, particularly for pharmaceutical intermediates. Profit was nevertheless lower than last year due to production problems in Italy and costs related to several restructuring projects. The cost level for Fine Chemicals is being reduced to adapt it to the difficult market situation.

Denofa posted weak profit in the third quarter. This was largely due to a lower industrial crushing margin and lower volume in connection with trading in soya beans. The market for edible oils in Norway was stable in comparison with last year. Improvement programmes and strict cost controls partially compensated for weak markets.

Profit for Borregaard Energy was lower than in the third quarter of last year. Higher market prices partially offset the loss on financial power trading and lower own production.

FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

After rising 16.5 % in the first half of 2003, the Oslo Stock Exchange Benchmark Index rose a further 6.3 % in the third quarter. The Index was therefore 23.8 % higher than at the beginning of the year. The international markets also rose in the third quarter, and the FT World Index has risen 13.3 % so far this year. The return on Orkla's investment portfolio has been 14.1 % so far this year.

Book profit before tax for the Financial Investments division amounted to NOK 95 million (NOK 10 million)¹ in the third quarter. Realised gains in the third quarter totalled NOK 72 million, compared with a loss of NOK 26 million last year. Dividends received amounted to NOK 1 million for the quarter (NOK 24 million)¹. Profit so far this year amounted to NOK

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944 million (NOK 518 million)¹. The gain on the sale of Orkla's stake in Enskilda Securities, which amounted to NOK 513 million, was taken to income in the first quarter.

Net purchases of shares totalled NOK 403 million in the third quarter, the largest transaction being the purchase of Telenor shares for just over NOK 200 million. So far this year, net sales of shares (excluding Enskilda Securities shares) amount to NOK 835 million.

After Orkla decided not to convert its loan to Norway Seafoods Holding (NWSH) into shares, the loan fell due on 30 September 2003. It was not repaid as anticipated on the due date. Since the end of the third quarter, Orkla, NWSH and its most important financial creditors have entered into an agreement concerning refinancing of the loan. When the agreement is finalised, NOK 150 million of the loan will be repaid to Orkla and a security package will be established for the remainder of the loan, which will run until 31 December 2004 at the latest.

The net asset value of the investment portfolio increased by NOK 436 million in the third quarter and by NOK 1,594 million so far this year. At the end of the third quarter, the net asset value of the portfolio amounted to NOK 11,834 million. As of 30 September, the market value of the portfolio was NOK 12,768 million and investments outside Norway accounted for 33.2 %. Unrealised gains totalled NOK 1,418 million.

CASH FLOW AND FINANCIAL SITUATION

Free cash flow from operations amounted to NOK 1,718 million in the third quarter, up NOK 626 million compared with the third quarter of last year. Carlsberg Breweries had particularly high cash flow, mainly due to a reduction in working capital and income from the sale of buildings in the UK and Sweden.

Expansion investments in Carlsberg Breweries companies accounted for a majority of the Industry division's expansion investments, which totalled NOK 159 million. Net acquisitions, which were also largely associated with acquisitions in the Beverages business, amounted to NOK 107 million. Divestments totalled NOK 123 million for the quarter and were largely related to Orkla Media's sale of a real estate company in the Berlingske Group. Settlement for Orkla Media's sale of newspaper businesses in Poland will be posted in the fourth quarter.

The Group's net purchases of portfolio shares amounted to NOK 403 million for the quarter. As of 30 September 2003, net sales of portfolio shares and settlement for the sale of Enskilda Securities had made a significant contribution to net cash flow.

The Orkla Group's net cash flow in the third quarter amounted to NOK 824 million. As a result of a minor increase in the value of the Norwegian

krone since the second quarter of 2003, liabilities in NOK were reduced by NOK 203 million. The total effect on net interest-bearing liabilities was therefore a reduction of NOK 1 billion.

The Group's average borrowing rate has been 4.7 % (5.5 %)¹ so far this year. As of 30 September 2003 the percentage of interest-bearing liabilities at floating interest rates was 75 %. Interest-bearing liabilities are mainly in NOK, SEK, EUR, DKK, USD and GBP.

Currency translation differences on equity capital were equivalent to a positive effect of NOK 378 million, and as of 30 September 2003 the equity to total assets ratio was 38.5 %, up 1.4 percentage points for the quarter and 3.3 percentage points so far this year.

OTHER MATTERS

Orkla has decided to change its collective service pension schemes in Norway from defined benefit schemes to defined contribution schemes. This change will take effect from 1 January 2004 and has the full support of employees' representatives. The Group's pension costs in Norway will not be significantly affected by the change.

OUTL OOK

The economic prospects for 2003 did not change significantly in the third quarter and the Board of Directors continues to anticipate a certain improvement in overall profit for Orkla Foods, Orkla Brands and Orkla Beverages. The Chemicals business is exposed to a weaker market situation and there are no signs of any significant changes in market conditions up to the end of the year. The fourth quarter is the most important period for the Media business and there is still a considerable amount of uncertainty about how the Danish advertising markets will develop, while cost-cutting measures will gradually have a stronger impact.

Measured in DKK, Carlsberg Breweries estimates that annual operating profit before goodwill amortisation will be approximately 5 % lower than last year. In local currencies this represents growth of 5 %, but profit for Orkla Beverages measured in NOK is expected to remain more or less unchanged. This adjustment is primarily ascribable to BBH, which is expected to achieve somewhat lower profit than previously anticipated. In addition to this, it is possible that provisions may have to be made for further restructuring in the fourth quarter, including in Sweden.

Interest and currency rates are expected to have a positive impact in the fourth quarter in comparison with last year.

Oslo, 6 November 2003 The Board of Directors of Orkla ASA

